

Week 3: Wikis

January 27 – February 3

I am sure you have all heard of Wikis before. Wiki is that weird little word that means “fast” in Hawaiian. When I am describing it to people who are unfamiliar with them, I call it an “instant website”. Most people know about Wikipedia and that is a good example of how Wikis can be used to collaborate. They are really wonderful classroom tools.

The **READING** for this week will tell you more than you ever wanted to know about Wikis! After you complete the reading (and the watching of Wikis in Plain Language) you are going to **EXPLORE** some different educational Wikis. (Note that the Grant study is optional, if you want to go into a little more depth, feel free to read it, but if you have enough on your plate already, just move along.)

Then you are going to look at two different wiki sites - Wikispaces and PBWiki. Once you have looked them over, your **ASSIGNMENT** is to create a Wiki in the format you prefer. Make it your own, visually. You should have at least a main page and two additional pages. The topic for your wiki can be anything you are interested in. (It does not need to even be education related.) Even though you are creating it on your own, write about how it could be used collaboratively when you recount your wiki exploration in your blog! Send me the wiki link and post it in your blog.

And last of all – don’t forget to take part in the **DISCUSSION**! (If you haven’t already committed it to memory, feel free to consult the rubric.)

Reading:

Richardson, 55-70.

Common Craft - Wikis in Plain English

<http://www.commoncraft.com/video-wikis-plain-english>

Oatman, “Make Way For Wikis”, *SLJ*.

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6277799.html>

Briscoe, “Which Wiki is Right For You?”, *SLJ*.

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6438167.html>

Grant, Lindsay. *Using Wikis in Schools: A Case Study*. FutureLabs, 2006.

<http://www.futurelab.org.uk/resources/publications-reports-articles/discussion-papers/Discussion-Paper258> [download pdf] [**optional**]

Exploration: Best Educational Wiki 2010

<http://edublogawards.com/2012/12/13/and-the-2012-edublog-award-winners-are/>

Wikispaces

www.wikispaces.com

Pbwiki

<http://pbwiki.com/>

Googlesites

<https://accounts.google.com/ServiceLogin?service=jotspot&passive=1209600&continue=https://sites.google.com/&followup=https://sites.google.com/&authuser=0>